

Eng. Hist. Topog. vol 17.
**ARTICLES,
RULES and ORDERS,**

TO BE OBSERVED BY THE
**ROCHESTER, CHATHAM, BROMPTON
and STROOD,**

Tontine Association,
FOR THE
BENEFIT of SURVIVORS,

AT
The Expiration of Five Years.

EDWARD SISON, Esq. }
THOMAS MITCHELL, Esq. } TRUSTEES.
JACOB C. TROY, Esq. }

Messrs. DAY, HULKES, TROY, SABB and GILLMAN,
Bankers, Rochester, Treasurers.

ARTICLES of AGREEMENT, Indented, had, made, concluded and fully agreed upon the 28th day of March, in the Thirty First Year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith and so forth, and in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety One :—

WE whose Names are hereunto subscribed, do enter into an Association, called the ROCHESTER, CHATHAM, BROMPTON and STROOD TONTINE ASSOCIATION; and agree to raise a Capital by Monthly or Quarterly Subscriptions, to be divided at the Expiration of Five Years from the date hereof, in manner and under the regulation following, which we severally Covenant with each other and bind ourselves to submit to and observe.

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ARTICLE FIRST. That this Society be not at present confined to any Number of Members, but that Books be kept open for the admission of such as may be willing to enter their Names therein, for Three Calendar Months, commencing from the day of the date hereof, without regard to age or sex, (Apprentices excepted, who shall not be admitted Members without consent of their Masters or Guardians, first had and obtained in writing and delivered to the Agents) But if deemed convenient by the Committee, to be kept open for a longer space of time, every Member then admitted, shall be subject to the following fines, for entrance money exclusive, of what they propose to subscribe Monthly or Quarterly, to be paid by each Subscriber in addition to his or her Quarter's Arrear:—After three Months, Sixpence; after four Months, one Shilling, and Sixpence advance every Month succeeding. The books to be finally closed the Twenty-eight day of March, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-two, and no person admitted as a Member of this Association after that period.



SECOND. That for the greater ease and convenience of all such as shall become Members of this Society. It is agreed that every Member shall have a Certificate with his name and number, and not producing it, or, remembering his number, when he pays his Subscription, shall forfeit One Penny.



THIRD. That every Member subscribe after the rate of Sixpence weekly, for each share; and any Member may subscribe for any number of shares, and shall receive a dividend in proportion to his or her subscription.

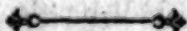


FOURTH. That each Member admitted into this Society shall pay to the Agents for their own use, the sum of Threepence, for entering his or her name, and granting his or her Certificate: at which time each subscriber

shall be furnished with a Book of Articles, on paying Threepence for the same.



FIFTH. That each Member residing in or within five miles of Rochester, Chatham, Brompton and Strood, and having but one share, shall pay to the Agents of this Society; Threepence, Quarterly; and all those having more than one share, together with all Members not residing as aforesaid, shall pay Sixpence Quarterly, from the commencement of these Articles, for defraying such expences, which, they may be at in and about the business of this Society. Be it understood, that every nominee shall be paid for Monthly or Quarterly, the same as a Member is liable to pay.



SIXTH. That Messrs. Day, Hulkes, Troy, Sabb and Gillman, of the City of Rochester, in the County of Kent, Bankers; be and are hereby appointed Treasurers to this Society, into whose hands all subscriptions received by the Agents, shall be paid every month for the benefit of this Society; and for which they shall give a Receipt in a Book for that purpose. And all securities for money shall be deposited with them, and Duplicates of the books of account: for which they shall give an undertaking to produce when required by order of the Committee.



SEVENTH. That a Committee consisting of fifteen in number, of this Society, be appointed by a Majority of the subscribers, who shall attend the Committee-room at Mr. Stone's, on Monday the Eleventh day of April next: between the Hours of Seven and Eight of the Clock in the Evening, of that day, who shall serve for the term of Twelve Calendar months, from the date hereof. Five of whom shall and are hereby empowered to transact the ordinary business of this Society, agree-

able to these Articles. Any business extraordinary occurring to be determined by the whole Committee or the Majority of them. If any of the Committee neglect to attend any meeting when summoned by the Agents, he shall forfeit Sixpence, and for neglect of attendance at the Quarterly Meetings, shall forfeit Two Shillings and Sixpence; and for not attending the whole year, Ten Shillings and Sixpence. No excuse for non attendance to be admitted (sickness or absence on a journey, or on his Majesty's service only excepted). That the Committee do meet at the Committee-room, at Mr. Stone's aforesaid, or where else they may appoint from seven to nine, in the evening, on the last Monday in the Months of June, September, December and March, to inspect the Agents Accounts, and to sign the same: on which time, the books shall be cleared of every demand, and to transact such other business, as shall come before them, relative to this Society. And that this Society, date its commencement from the said Twenty-eighth day of March, at the hours of Seven of the Clock in the Evening; in case of the death of any Member of the Committee, or the refusal of any Member to serve, the Committee for the time being then assembled, shall and may elect any Member of the Society, to fill up the vacancy. The Member so refusing, shall forfeit Two Shillings and Sixpence, provided always that no female or minor, shall have any direction in this Society.

And that the Committee for the time being, shall at their fourth Quarterly Meeting, appoint a Committee for the ensuing year, by ballot.

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EIGHTH. That any Member, not of the Committee, who shall enter the Committee room, at the time of their sitting, without being requested, shall forfeit the sum of Two Shillings and Sixpence to the Committee.

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NINTH. That the Committee shall on the first meeting, appoint Trustees to place out the monies belonging

to this Society, at interest in the Public Funds, which Trustees shall, as they place out such monies at interest, sign an instrument, purporting that the monies so placed out at interest in their names, is the sole property of this Society; and that their names are only made use of to secure the same, for the use and benefit of this Society.

And that in case either of the Trustees shall die, the Committee for the time being, shall appoint another person or persons, in the room of the deceased.

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TENTH. That Messrs. Richard Woolley, and James Maudment, of the City of Rochester, Attornies at Law, and Mr. Hadarezar Stone, of Brompton, be and are hereby appointed joint Agents to this Society; whose Business it shall be to enter in proper Books, kept for that purpose, the names, places of abode, and additions of the subscribers, and of their nominees; and that they attend the Committee at their several meetings, to register the transactions thereof, and keep a just and clear account of the monies and securities, belonging to the said Society, and of the expences, outgoings, and all other matters and things, appertaining to the same, and to have all such accounts ready at every meeting of the Committee, for their inspection.

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ELEVENTH. Any Member neglecting to pay his or her Arrears, on the following Quarterly days; the last Monday in June, the last Monday in September, the last Monday in December, and the last Monday in March, or within fourteen days then next following; shall forfeit the sum of Sixpence; and if not paid within one month after either of the above Quarterly days, shall be excluded the benefit of this Society, (provided he or she hath Sixteen days notice delivered to him or her, or left at his or her place of abode, by the most convenient method, he or she paying the expence of such notice (if any shall occur in conveying the same) but if the Agents neglect

giving the proper notice, after directed by the Committee to give the same. The Member shall not be excluded, and the Agents fined, at the discretion of the Committee, any sum not exceeding Two Shillings and Sixpence; and which payments, may be made at the Agent's place of abode, in Rochester or Brompton aforesaid.

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TWELFTH. That if any one of the Members, shall hereafter change his or her place of abode, he or she shall send notice immediately in writing to the Agents, or one of them, of such removal, or forfeit the sum of One Shilling; or if any Member shall assign his interest to another, be it always understood that the life first nominated be continued, and the Agents, or one of them, by the authority of the Committee, must indorse such assignment, on the Certificate, for which he is to receive One Shilling. Any single woman or widow marrying, shall by the next Quarterly Meeting, bring or send her Certificate to the Agents, or one of them, to be indorsed with her name, for which she shall pay Sixpence, or forfeit the sum of One Shilling.

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THIRTEENTH. That the capital stock of this Society, is meant and intended for such members, or their Nominees, who shall survive to the full end and Term of Five years, from the commencement of these articles; at which time such Members, who shall be then living, will be entitled to their respective shares; but the stock and interest, shall from the end of the said term of Five years, accumulate to the expiration of six Calendar months next after, in order that the Committee may have time to investigate all dubious claims and impositions; at which period all monies, then due to the Society, shall be collected together, and divided amongst the Members, then living, and the executors or administrators of the Members who survived the full term of Five years, but who may have been previously to the dissolution. And in order

to prevent any impositions, from happening at the time such division is made, every person, if required, shall be obliged to prove the identity of his or her person, by a Certificate signed by the Minister, Churchwardens and Overseers, or any five reputable housekeepers, of the parish where he, she or they, then reside; and if that shall not prove satisfactory to the Committee, then upon oath he, she or they shall certify the identity of his, her or their person or persons, before a Justice of the Peace, approved by the Committee; and in default thereof, the share or shares, of such person or persons, shall remain in the Treasurers hands, until a claim be made in manner aforesaid, which claim must be made out, within the term of One year, to be computed from the expiration of the Five years; and if such claim is not made out within that time, such money shall be then divided between the survivors and the executors, or administrators, of such survivors, who were living at the expiration of the said term of Five years, and had made good their claims. parents and guardians, shall receive dividends, for all such members as were minors at the time of entrance; provided such minors were entered Members, by their parents or guardians, and not otherwise, but if any such parent or guardian, should happen to die before the expiration of the said term of Five years; then and in such case, such minor or minors, shall be intitled to the share, subscribed for him, her or they, by his or her parent, or guardian, in case such minor, or the executors, or administrators of such parent or guardian, shall make good his, her or their monthly or Quarterly payments, to the expiration of the said term of Five years. If any parent or guardian, shall happen to die at, or after the expiration of the said term of Five years, and before any dividend be made as aforesaid, in that case, also such minor shall be entitled to receive the share subscribed for him, her or them. That any Member or Members, having nominated any other life or lives, than his, her or their own, in case of the death of any such Member

or Members, his, her or their executors or administrators, or next of kin, on continuing the payment, agreeable to these articles, shall be entitled (if the nominated life or lives, live to the expiration of the said term of Five years, from the date hereof) to an equal share or shares, at the time of the dividend being made, in proportion to their shares, with all other Members.

FOURTEENTH. That the last Committee serve till the money is finally divided.

FIFTEENTH. That no person be ever employed in this Society, as Treasurer, Agent or Trustee, without previously giving such security for the trust, as the Committee for the time being shall think proper.

SIXTEENTH. That the expences of advertisements, stamps, printing, &c. be paid out of the fines (Committee fines excepted) and that the surplus, if any, be carried to the Stock, and in case the said fines be not sufficient to pay the same, then the remainder to be taken out of the Stock.

SEVENTEENTH. That these articles remain in full force and virtue, from the commencement of this Society, to its conclusion, without any addition or diminution whatsoever; and every Member shall be excluded all benefit and advantage from the Stock of this Society, if they do not fulfill all the articles and agreements herein before mentioned, in witness hereof, the underwritten Members, have to these presents, set their hands and seals.

THE END.

